Community Partnership/Resource Committee Minutes – March 13, 2012

Ms. Zeller welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them all for coming. She reminded everyone to sign-in on the sheet at the front table and to pick up a copy of the minutes and agency information that was also on the front table. She advised the committee that we would get through as much of the agenda as we could today, and any items not addressed would be tabled for discussion at our next meeting. Ms. Zeller than asked the committee members to go around the table and introduce themselves, by name and organization. After the completion of introductions, Ms. Zeller then turned the time over to Ms. Ernst.

Ms. Ernst welcomed everyone and thanked them for taking the time to attend. She then explained to those present that we would be recording this meeting as a way to take physical, as well as, audio notes to help us better assimilate the information gathered during this phase to help us in our additional phases of discussion. Ms. Ernst then gave a brief recap of what happened at the February 2012 meeting. Although the meeting was long, she felt very good about the items that we accomplished. We went through every agency present and were able to get a really good idea of what each agency provides, how to access their services, what types of referrals are required, and contact information if available. Ms. Ernst referenced the packet of organizational information that was assimilated and put together off of the notes taken at our last meeting. She instructed the committee members to review this information and notify Holly Padilla with any changes that needed to be made to the information. She explained that this would be an ongoing listing of what was available and would change as more agencies came on board, or as individual agency information changed. This was not to be a referral in the way of including all contact information or to be a paper referral source. It was just a way to assimilate the organizational information to allow the committee to utilize it as a reference tool. Ms. Ernst also mentioned to the committee that the list of services, in the community, which are either duplicated or gapped, would be an ongoing list and would be updated as more information became available as a result of our committee discussions. Ms. Ernst also reminded the committee members of the benefits of having these face to face discussions versus simply exchanging emails with each other. Ms. Ernst then asked that all new attendees please stand and give us the information about their agencies and what those agencies provide.

There was a discussion with Ron Marrujo about some of the programs that would be coming back to WNC and the funding that could be used for them. Unfortunately, FASFA is not eligible to be used for these classes. There are, however, scholarships to help offset these fees. Julie with JOIN brought up that they have funding available to pay the costs of these classes, if they are a work-related class. In regards to the Computer and Tech classes that WNC will be starting up again, Churchill County Parks and Recreation mentioned that they also have labs available and persons who are willing to conduct these classes if needed in the community.

Ms. Ernst then introduced Jody Brown who has just begun working for CEDA under contract with Social Services. Jody will be doing our workforce development and meeting with employers in the area to assess their needs and put people back to work. We will also have grant funding available to pay for these work related classes, as well.

Ms. Ernst then addressed those present and asked for ideas on whom they thought were missing from the table. Some of the names mentioned were people who had previously been invited, and had declined to attend. Those who were added to the list of potential attendees will be extended an invitation to participate in our round table discussions.

Ms. Ernst next discussed with the committee members, the use of a resource guide and how this could be an important tool for knowing what is out there and for making referrals. Ms. Ernst asked the committee their thoughts on a paper referral system and its viability. There was discussion among the group that a paper resource guide would just be impossible to keep up with and would be obsolete shortly after distribution. The discussion centered on the 211 system, which is funded through the United Way. This system is used nationwide. Web access for this system is www.nevada211.org. This service has a live-person assist, and individual agencies can update their information. The availability of this system is posted on all the boards welcoming people to the community. Those present will try working with this system for 30 days and report back at the next committee meeting.

Ms. Ernst then discussed with the committee the referral systems that were currently in place. It was mentioned that the paper referral system just doesn't quite work and that it would be beneficial to use phone and/or electronic referrals. Something that would allow for tracking this information would be best. Ms. Ernst then discussed with the committee the HMIS system currently used by Churchill County Social Services and other agencies throughout the state. This is an informational data base system. They have recently undergone some management changes and several user-friendly enhancements have been made to the system. This system is free and is available to be used by any agency. The system is very simple and the training needed would be minimal. This would be an easy way to track referrals and services provided to clients that would allow all agencies to see what has been going on with an individual. Referrals would be able to be made within the system. Ms. Ernst asked the committee members to bring samples of referral forms they currently use to be discussed at the next committee meeting.

Ms. Ernst advised the committee that our next steps would be to meet again next month and continue on with our discussion of the 211 system and ways to update the information provided and to utilize this service. There will also be a continuing discussion of the referral systems currently used and modifications that can be made to those referral systems.

Ms. Ernst then asked the committee members if there were any other items for discussion. Lana, with Care-Net, mentioned they are looking for an old building space and wanted to know if anyone knew of any that were available.

Ms. Ernst then turned the time back over to Ms. Zeller for the DEC update. Ms. Zeller informed the committee that Allison Smith from the Attorney General's office is looking to establish a core team utilizing grant funding available. This team will include members from hospitals, law enforcement, social services, NAS, and DCFS. MOUs will be used. During April/May, protocol for the above will be established. There will be a Churchill Coalition meeting on March 21, 2012 at the Fallon Convention Center. The meeting will

be from 11:30AM-1:15PM. Allison will be the guest speaker. Please RSVP by email to Andrea if you would like to attend.

Ms. Ernst then concluded the meeting by scheduling the next meeting for April 17, 2012 at the Old Post Office from 11AM-2PM.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:15PM.